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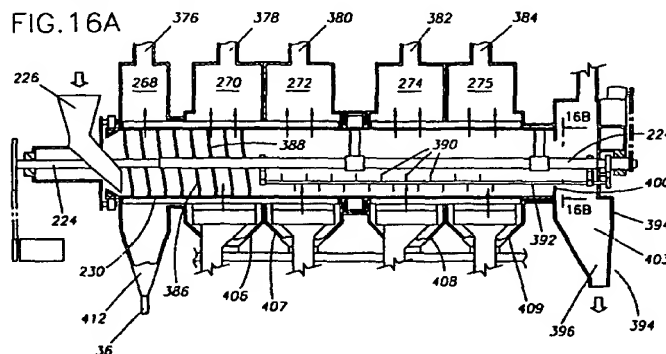
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(54) **Method and apparatus for drying a food granule slurry**

(57) Water and wet food granules are fed to a perforated rotating barrel (230) in which the food granules move in a longitudinal direction, the barrel having separately controllable temperature zones (268, 270, 272, 274), and a blower (222) for blowing air

past the food granules along a path that passes through perforations in the barrel (230), crosses an inner space within the barrel, and exists through perforations in the barrel.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X Y	GB 691 522 A (PENN ET AL) * the whole document *	1,2,5,10 3,4,6,7, 9	F26B11/18
Y	DE 39 02 271 A (GEBRÜDER BÜHLER AG) * figure 11 *	3	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11 February 1997	Examiner Silvis, H
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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Application Number
EP 96 10 3476

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
A	CH 245 154 A (JENNY) -----		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
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<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>----- & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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